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Oddfellows 129th Anniversary Speech

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Mr. Chairman, Your Excellency Governor Hildreth, Distinguished visitors, ^{members Odd Fellows} ~~ladies and gentlemen:~~

On this one hundred and twenty-ninth anniversary of your Order, it is a pleasure for me, as Mayor of Lewiston, ^{extend to} to ₁ you the most cordial welcome. As a great ~~number~~ many of you have already been in our community for quite a few hours, they must have noticed that our City, ³ ~~its~~ hospitality, its institutions, its industries, are not to be judged by the size of its chief executive.

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To those of you who are visiting Lewiston for the first time, may I say, on behalf of our citizens, that everyone here in the city is most happy to see you and hopes that you will always remember that somewhere in the Pine Tree State, on the banks of the Androscoggin River, lies a trading center named Lewiston, with a population of nearly 50,000 people. And don't forget this: The Odd Fellows are a part of America. Lewiston also is a part of this country and all its citizens are united in

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hoping that you will *visit us more* ~~come more~~ often ~~here~~ for your enjoyment.

In closing may I wish you a very, very successful celebration and congratulate you of this anniversary.